

IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the Application. Please cancel Claims 4, 5, 9, 10, 14, 15, 19, and 20 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend Claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 as follows.

1. (Currently amended) A method of distributed collaborative computing comprising:

partitioning a collaboration function into sub-functions;

assigning at least one said sub-function to each of a plurality of logical processes;

associating a respective management process with each of said plurality of logical processes, said logical processes configured so that each said logical process is capable of communicating with every other said logical process ~~thru~~ through said respective management

process;

communicating between said logical processes using said respective management processes; and

monitoring said respective management processes with a single supervisor process;

wherein said communicating employs a secure protocol on a dedicated network.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said secure protocol comprises encryption.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said secure protocol comprises compression.

4-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently amended) A computer program for use in distributed collaborative computing, comprising computer instructions for:

partitioning a collaboration function into sub-functions;

assigning at least one said sub-function to each of a plurality of logical processes;

associating a respective management process with each of said plurality of logical processes, said logical processes configured so that each said logical process is capable of communicating with every other said logical process ~~thru~~ through said respective management process;

communicating between said logical processes using said respective management processes; and

monitoring said respective management processes with a single supervisor process; wherein said communicating employs a secure protocol on a dedicated network.

7. (Original) The computer program of Claim 6, wherein said secure protocol comprises encryption.

8. (Original) The computer program of Claim 6, wherein said secure protocol comprises compression.

9-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium storing a computer program executable by a plurality of server computers, the computer program comprising computer instructions for:

partitioning a collaboration function into sub-functions;

assigning at least one said sub-function to each of a plurality of logical processes;

associating a respective management process with each of said plurality of logical processes, said logical processes configured so that each said logical process is capable of

communicating with every other said logical process ~~thru~~ through said respective management process;

communicating between said logical processes using said respective management processes; and

monitoring said respective management processes with a single supervisor process; wherein said communicating employs a secure protocol on a dedicated network.

12. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 11, wherein said secure protocol comprises encryption.

13. (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 11, wherein said secure protocol comprises compression.

14-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently amended) A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave, comprising computer instructions for:

partitioning a collaboration function into sub-functions;

assigning at least one said sub-function to each of a plurality of logical processes;

associating a respective management process with each of said plurality of logical processes, said logical processes configured so that each said logical process is capable of communicating with every other said logical process ~~thru~~ through said respective management process;

communicating between said logical processes using said respective management processes; and

monitoring said respective management processes with a single supervisor process; wherein said communicating employs a secure protocol on a dedicated network.

17. (Original) The computer data signal of Claim 16, wherein said secure protocol comprises encryption.

18. (Original) The computer data signal of Claim 16, wherein said secure protocol comprises compression.

19-20. (Cancelled)